SUBSTANCES THAT COULD BE IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

Golden Hills Community Services District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2013. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

FUTURE IMPROVEMENT IMPACTS

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system and these may be reflected in future rate increase requests. Your Golden Hills CSD Board of Directors consider such actions very carefully as they are your neighbors, elected by you, and they pay the same water bills you receive. Through good management practices, rate adjustments are kept to an absolute minimum as all alternatives are thoroughly explored and implemented. There are times, however, when rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address needed improvements, rate increases passed along by others outside the control of the District and/or increased maintenance costs. It is always our desire to continue providing your family with clean, quality water at the most affordable price possible and we want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

ALWAYS WORKING TO SERVE YOU!

The Golden Hills Community Services District is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve our water testing, treatment, storage and delivery processes. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and our able staff stand ready to respond to all water quality and quantity issues that may arise.

Our water source is our wells, located inside and immediately adjacent to the Tehachapi groundwater basin, installed and maintained to draw water from an adjudicated water basin managed and operated by Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District.

We have a source water assessment plan, available for public viewing, in our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

HEALTH ADVISORY

Even though we have no water-related health effects to report this past year, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Golden Hills Community Services District
P.O. Box 637
Tehachapi, CA 93581

Please call our office if you have questions. We at Golden Hills Community Services District work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

HEALTH EFFECTS: NONE TO REPORT

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Our water is pumped into our homes through a complex system of pumps and underground piping connected to drilled groundwater wells owned and operated by the District. These wells are physically located within the boundaries of the adjudicated and non-adjudicated Tehachapi groundwater basin. The groundwater banking fees that you pay each month with your water bill funds the necessary recharge operations provided by the Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District. These efforts assure that adequate water supplies are maintained now and into the future.

Annual Water Quality Report
Water Testing Performed in 2013

Office Location:
21415 Reeves Street
Tehachapi, California

GOLDEN HILLS
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

WE INVITE OUR COMMUNITY TO BE INVOLVED!

Your elected Board of Directors are your neighbors that live right here in the District. They oversee, through the appointment of a General Manager, the overall operations of the District. Their desire is for every resident to plan to attend and actively participate in the regular public Board Meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Golden Hills CSD Board Room located at 21415 Reeves Street, Tehachapi, California.

The District provides a web site www.ghcsd.com where information is readily available and you can now find us on Facebook allowing more immediate access to newsletters and current events.

Should you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact our office Monday - Thursday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. or call Mike Sides, Assistant General Manager at 661-822-3064. Our highly trained staff are also available at the service desk and our management team stands ready to answer your questions.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	Range of Detection	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
pH Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	7.87	SU	7.8-8		N/A	
Temperature Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	20	°C	20-20			
Total Cations Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	6.9	meq/L	4.7-8.9			
Total Anions Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	6.73	meq/L	4.8-8.5			
Hardness Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	270	mg/L	180-360		N/A	
Alkalinity							
Carbonate Alkalinity Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	196.67	mg/L	170-230			
Langelier Index Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	1.24	Blank	0.96-1.38			
Langelier Index (Source Temp) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	0.63	Blank	0.35-0.77			
Inorganic Chemicals							
Arsenic Collection Dates: 03/14/2013-08/22/2013	N	0	mg/L	0-0.0084		0.010	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	0.07	mg/L	0-0.11	1	1	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	0.21	mg/L	0.2-0.22	2	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) Collection Dates: 03/14/2013-12/02/2013	N	19.53	mg/L	0-35	45	45	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Calcium(Ca) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	83.33	mg/L	55-110		N/A	
Nitrite+Nitrate Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	4.53	mg/L	4.2-4.8	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Microorganisms							
Total Coliforms (including fecal coliform and E. Coli) Collection Dates: 01/02/2013-12/23/2013	Y	2/3	P/A	0-1	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform (Density) Collection Dates: 02/27/2013-12/30/2013	N	0.18	MPN/100ml	0-12			
Total Coliform (Well) Collection Dates: 02/27/2013-12/30/2013	N	0.11	Positive Tubes	0-7			
Organic Chemicals							
Tetrachloroethylene Collection Date: 09/06/2012	N	0	ppb	0-0.00079	0	5	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Tetrachloroehene (PCE) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-12/02/2013	N	0	mg/L	0-0.0031	0.005	0.005	
Unregulated Contaminants							
Turbidity Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	0.13	NT Units	0-0.4	5	5	Soil runoff
Chloride Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	38.33	mg/L	12-58		250	
Sodium Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	33.33	mg/L	25-39		N/A	
Sulfate Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	68	mg/L	35-93			
Magnesium Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	14.33	mg/L	10-18		N/A	
Vanadium Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	0.01	mg/L	0.012-0.014			
Aggressive Index (CORROSIVITY) Collection Date: 06/13/2013	N	12.61	Blank	12.61-12.61			
Bicarbonate (HCO3) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	240	mg/L	210-280		N/A	
Odor Threshold Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	1	TON	1-1	3	3	
Potassium(K) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	1.53	mg/L	1.5-1.6			
Total Dissolved Residual Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	403.33	mg/L	280-500			
Specific Conductance (E.C.) Collection Dates: 06/13/2013-08/22/2013	N	640	umhos/cm	440-810			

DEFINITIONS

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we`ve provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) or Millequivalents per liter (meq/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Conductivity (Umhos/cm) - A unit of electrical conductance.

Standard Units (SU) - Normally used in measuring the acidity or basicity of a substance; water ranges from zero (highly acidic) to seven (neutral) to fourteen (highly basic).

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Color Units - A measure of detectable water color.

Degrees of Temperature - Degrees centigrade are measured from zero (freezing) to one hundred (boiling).

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) The `Maximum Allowed` (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - (mandatory language) The `Goal`(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

EXPLANATIONS OF MONITORING RESULTS

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. The test results provided in this report indicate that the quality of water supplied this past year to the public was safe to consume. While certain wells in the District consistently show levels of nitrate exceeding 10 ppm (which individually may pose a health risk for infants less than six months of age and can cause blue baby syndrome), this does not pose a threat to the overall quality of water delivered to the customer. Our system of wells, pumping water into over sixty miles of pipeline and numerous storage tanks provides a blended product to the customer. However, if you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

The only problem experienced this past year was we did incur a single system coliform violation in October, 2013 and immediate and extensive steps were taken to verify the findings. We were pleased to discover through an immediate investigation and re-testing process that sampling error by the contract laboratory and/or sample container contamination were the likely cause. All repeat bacteriological samples and samples taken prior to and since this incident have been negative and you can have confidence that your water is safe.

It is important to understand that all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. The MCL's are set such that out of every 10,000 or 1,000,000 people (depends upon how the MCL was developed) drinking 2 liters of water every day for a lifetime, only 1 of those people may experience the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Nitrates: While physicians and health care providers in our area are aware of higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply, it is important that you discuss such issues with these professionals, particularly in the event you are caring for an infant less than six months of age.

Another constituent of concern is lead, particularly if found in elevated levels. While there is no evidence of elevated lead levels in the water delivered to your home, when elevated levels are detected inside homes the most common causes are primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. It is important to know that, if present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Golden Hills Community Services District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Este informe contiene informaciòn muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER RESOURCE

Did you know that what you put down your drain, or flush down your toilet, eventually reaches our groundwater? This is indeed what occurs and we encourage everyone NOT to flush chemicals i.e. auto parts cleaner, pharmaceuticals i.e. left-over or outdated drugs from you medicine cabinet or other hazardous materials down toilets or sinks. An additional source of contamination in our area is the private sewage disposal systems serving nearly all homes in our community. Proper maintenance (pumping septic tanks every 3-5 years depending upon family size) is an important first step in protecting groundwater and saving you repair costs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO CONSERVE WATER

What might seem to be small steps can have a huge impact on our available water supply. You can take an active role by promptly repairing water leaks, washing only full loads of dishes and laundry, and turning off the tap between uses i.e. when brushing your teeth. Such efforts have proven to save thousands of gallons of water each day in a community setting. Further efforts including installation of low flow toilets, washing machines and other low flow fixtures will preserve this valuable resource and ultimately save you money.